GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:510
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2002
HANDING OVER OF ANCILLARY FUNCTIONS OF COURTS TO PRIVATE PARTIES
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Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the High Courts in the country have decided to entrust certain ancillary functions of courts to private parties to ensure speed, efficiency and maintenance of equipments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas considered for handing over to private parties;

(d) whether this experiment has already been commenced in any court; and

(e) if so, the outcome of the experiment?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI)

(a) to (e) Bombay High Court, as part of the Pilot Project of Computerisation and Networking of city courts in Mumbai, which is funded by the Department of Justice, Government of India, is contemplating to enlist the participation of private vendors in certain ancillary functions connected with courts. These functions are:

- Providing certified copies
- Issue of services & processes
- Making court related information available to litigant public and lawyers on video display units and internet/e-kiosks/interactive voice response system (I.V.R.S.)
- Processing of plaints, petitions etc. being field in the court.

The vendors will install their own hardware, software and other equipment. They will be responsible for maintenance of their equipment, and will be paid by the court on the basis of the actual volume of work done or services performed. Participation of private vendors is expected to bring about speed and efficiency in the delivery of services & ensure proper maintenance of equipment. Tenders have been called for the participation of private vendors.